REMARKS

The Examiner's finding of allowability of claims 15 - 21 is noted with appreciation. Additionally, the Examiner's identification of allowable subject matter in claims 5 and 10 if amended to independent form incorporating the limitations of their rejected base claims is also appreciated. Claim 1 has been amended in a manner believed to distinguish the prior art in a manner similar to claim 5.

Lin et al's disclosure of a CAM and associated ability to access data does not disclose the presence of both simplex and multiplex entries for voice packet data in a single compare circuit. The applicants respectfully draw the Examiner's attention to Hoshi, on which the Examiner further relies for such disclosure, at page 183 wherein it is stated with respect to the Rosenberg and Subbiah references that "implementations and test reports have not yet been reported" with respect to multiplexing of voice data. Further Hoshi itself, while identifying use of both simplex and multiplexed data for IP telephony and a potential structure for multiplexed data, does not disclose or suggest a means for distinguishing between multiplex and simplex data. See for example FIG. 3 on page 184 wherein a multiplexed voice stream channel and single stream channels are shown as being exchanged between multiple IP-GWs with a common IP-GW but no disclosure or suggestion with respect to any means for combining or differentiating the multiplexed and simplex data in the common IP-GW is provided. In fact, Hoshi teaches away from the present invention by stating that "[n]egotiation of whether a call is multiplexed or non-multiplexed between IP-GWs is done by the call control sequence" implying that no common steaming of the two types of data is employed. The applicants respectfully contend that claim 1 as amended is now allowable over the cited prior art.

Claim 9 from which claim 10 depended has been amended to include the limitations of claim 10 and is now believed to be allowable. Claim 10 has been cancelled. The applicants respectfully contend that claims 1 and 9 are now allowable.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Lin et al (6,635,563) in view of Hoshi et al ("Proposal of a Method of for [sic] Voice Stream Multiplexing for IP Telephony Systems"). Claim 1 and claim 9 have been amended to clarify the invention and are believe to be clearly patentable over the prior art as discussed above. In view of the amendment of claim 1, the applicants

respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of claims 2-4 and 6-8 based on their addition of patentable limitations as further combination of elements with an allowable base claim, claim 1. Similarly, claims 11, 13 and 14 are believed to be allowable as claiming additional distinctive features which in combination with the patentable elements of claim 9 also constitute patentable subject matter.

The Examiner has rejected claim 12 as unpatentable over Lin et al, Hoshi et al and further in view of Choi (20010030966). Claim 12, dependent on claim 9 as now amended, is believed to be allowable as identifying and claiming additional features/limitations in further combination with an underlying patentable combination of elements. In view of the amendment of claim 9, the applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claim 12 be withdrawn.

The applicant believes that all claims now pending in the application as amended are now in condition for allowance and action by the Examiner in that regard is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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